ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a contention arbitration apparatus and method which can fully utilize the advantages of physical devices and can be flexibly adapted to a change of the physical devices. A contention arbitration apparatus 1 includes: a resource information storing section 14 for storing resource information; a device information storing section 18 for storing device information indicating a correspondence between a logic device and resources; a used resource recognizing section 13 for recognizing a resource associated with the logic device; a resource access determining section 15 for determining by reference to the resource information which application program is allowed to access the resource recognized by the used resource recognizing section; and a device access determining section 16 for determining, based on a determination result provided by the resource access determining section, whether the application program which has specified the logic device is able to access a physical device which implements functions defined by the logic device.